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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Letter dated 10 February 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the letter dated 8 January 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations (A/69/718-S/2015/11).

The letter and its annex are yet another clear testimony to Armenia's continued policy of misstating facts and falsifying data to conceal its responsibility for endangering the regional peace and security by continuing to occupy the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan in violation of Security Council resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993).

To be specific, while pretending to objectively inform the General Assembly and the Security Council on ceasefire violations, Armenia "forgot" to mention the fact that on 12 November 2014, "MI-24" combat helicopters of the air forces of the Republic of Armenia attacked the defence positions of the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan near the village of Kengerly in the occupied Agdam district of the Republic of Azerbaijan and one of them was downed by the response fire.

It should be recalled that in its resolution 853 (1993), the Security Council condemned "the seizure of the district of Agdam and of all other recently occupied areas of the Azerbaijani Republic" and demanded "immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces involved from the district of Agdam and all other recently occupied areas of the Azerbaijani Republic".

The use of heavy weaponry, deployment of 47,000 troops, continuous flights over the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan and attacks on the position of the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan were reported by Armenia's mass media.

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The purposeful concealment of key facts attests to Armenia's deceptive and manipulative practices to deny its role, involvement and grave responsibility for the aggression and occupation of the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan and its consequences.

Against the background of systematic ceasefire violations and misstatements, Armenia even purports to show that ceasefire violations reported by Azerbaijan allegedly do not coincide with "the operational data of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia" (see A/69/541-S/2014/746). Indeed, it is hard to believe that the operational data of the Republic of Armenia, the aggressor and occupying State, would coincide with the information reported by the Republic of Azerbaijan, the object of aggression.

On the other hand, by referring and disclosing the operational data of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia, the representative of Armenia honestly admitted his country's direct involvement and responsibility for the continued aggression against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter urgently circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 38, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative